

Los Angeles News.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1868.

CITY DAM.

On Thursday night the wing dam recently constructed at the site of the old dam, and which it was supposed would place water in the Zanzas for present domestic and irrigating purposes, was carried away by the temporary rise of the river, and just as our citizens flattered themselves that water would be placed within convenient reach, at least of those residing near the Zanzas, they are confronted with another disaster and consequent delay. The subject of constructing a new dam is freely discussed upon the streets, and we understand that some members of the Council favor the project. Engineers have expressed the opinion that a sufficiency of water during the irrigating season could not be procured without a dam. The city however is unable to build a dam without the issuance of bonds for that purpose, which cannot be done without an act of the Legislature. From examination of the premises we were of the opinion that a dam was unnecessary, as the Zanja could be extended upon the river until the grade would be sufficiently low to receive the water from the river without the use of any dam whatever, save a few stones and brush to check the current where the water enters the Zanja, which, we are informed, was entirely impracticable on account of the constant washing of the sand, and changing of the river bed. Whether such is or is not the case we do not now propose to discuss, it being a fact to be more authoritatively determined by scientific engineering than by discussion in the newspapers. We would be remiss in our duty as a journalist, however, did we not urge upon the Common Council the necessity of prompt and vigorous action in the premises. The irrigating season is rapidly approaching, and something must be done to insure a supply of water for the farmers and vineyardists. That body should therefore make an investigation at once, and determine what is necessary to be done. To avoid the responsibility that is now upon them, will be to prove themselves unfit representatives of the interests of our prosperous city.